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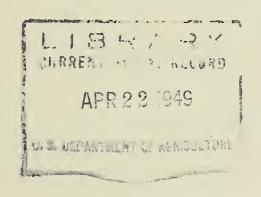
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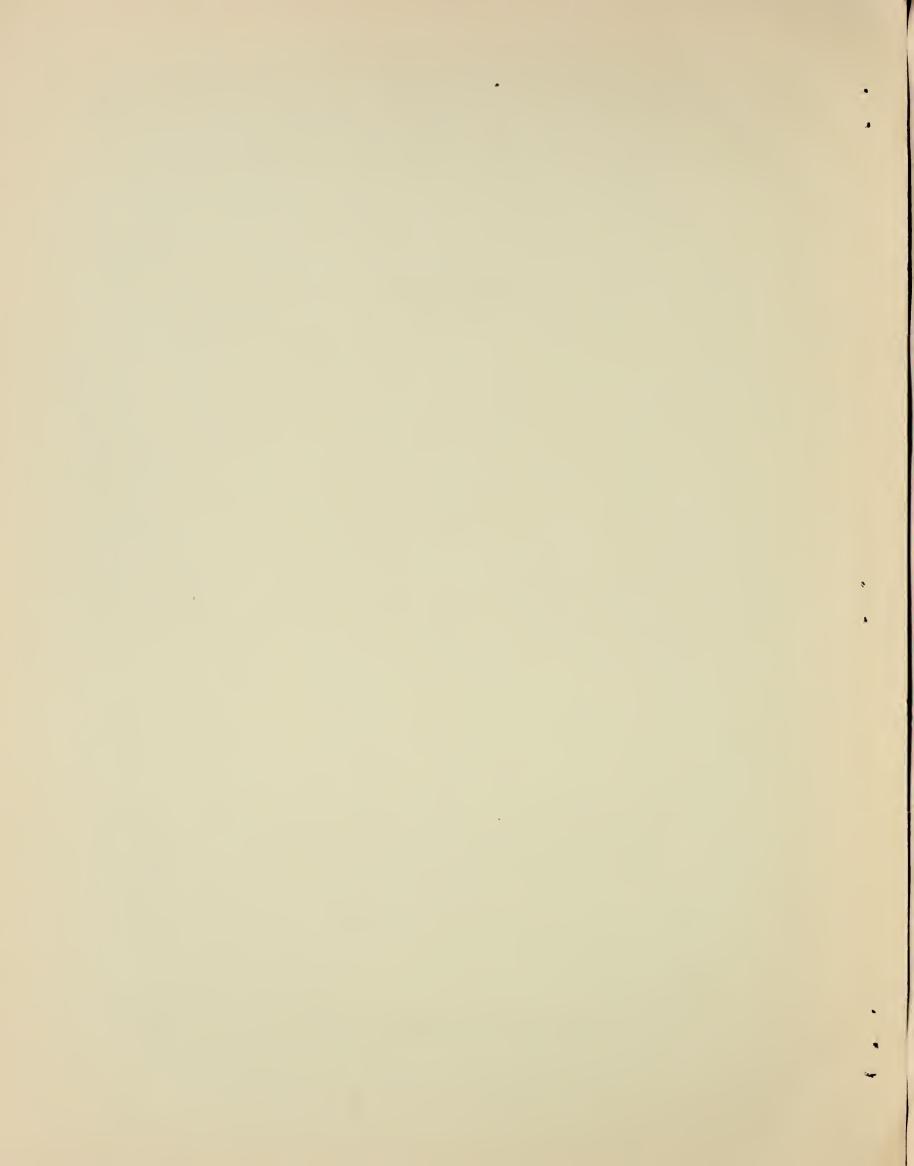
FEDERAL-STATE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS and IRRIGATION WATER FORECASTS

for **NEVADA** April 1,1949



Division of Irrigation, Soil Conservation Service
United States Department of Agriculture
Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station
and
Nevada State Engineer

Data included in this report were obtained by the agencies named above in cooperation with other Federal, State, and local organizations listed on the last page of this report.



FEDERAL-STATE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS AND IRRIGATION WATER FORECASTS

FOR

NEVADA

Report Prepared

by

Clyde E. Houston, Irrigation Engineer
Division of Irrigation
Soil Conservation Service

and

H. P. Boardman-Chairman Nevada Cooperative Snow Surveys

Division of Irrigation Soil Conservation Service Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station Reno, Nevada

INDEX TO SNOW COURSES

NUMBE	CRS NAME	ELEVATION	NUMBERS	NAME	ELEVATION	NUMBERS	NAME	ELEVATI ON
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WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

NEVADA

APRIL 1, 1949

Snow stored water in the Sierra is quite heavy at the lower elevations being about twice normal while the higher elevation snow is about normal. Low snow in Humboldt Basin is about twice normal while high snow is about 135 percent.

In general precipitation throughout the State is about normal or slightly below. Heavy snow cover at this date is due to extremely low temperatures during the winter.

Groundwater levels are down in the major irrigated valleys. This shortage will be replenished by surface runoff with a resultant decrease in available surface water.

Early season streamflow has been retarded by subnormal temperatures.

Reservoir storage is poor with total storage on April 1 about 80 percent of last year, 45 percent of the 1938-47 average, and 35 percent of the usable capacity. Lake Mead contains about 95 percent of last years storage on this date.

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	April-Jul	<u> </u>	sive stream					
Forecast Stream	Forecast 1949	1938 - 47 Average	1949 as % 10 yr.Avg.	1901-45 Normal	1949 as % 45yr.Norm			unoff 1946
Owyhee River nr. Owyhee, Nev.	150	82	183	80	187	54	32	88
Lamoille Crk.nr. Lamoille, Nev.	32	2 9	110	30	107	25	25	30
So.Fk.Humboldt nr. Elko, Nev.	160	87	184	70	218	45	44	90
Humboldt River at Palisade, Nev.	300	247	121	200	150	104	94	256
Martin Crk. nr. Paradise, Nev.	14	16	87	20	70	13	7	14
West Carson at Woodfords, Calif.	50	63	7 9	65	77	45	35	55
East Carson nr. Gardnerville, Nev.	180	213	85	210	86	151	121	178
Carson River nr. Carson City, Nev.	160	206	78	200	80	132	93	172
Carson River at Ft. Churchill, Nev.	135	191	71	195	69	113	80	154
West Walker nr. Coleville, Calif.	165	163	101	175	94	109	104	149
East Walker nr. Bridgeport, Calif.	2 65	7 7	84	7 5	87	_32	31	56
Truckee River at Farad, Calif. 3	250	272	92	290	86	211	127	268
Lake Tahoe4	359	692	52	583	62	465	611	7 37

^{1.} Corrected for storage in Wildhorse Reservoir.

Tahoe and Truckee Forecasts by Truckee Basin Water Committee.

^{2.} For period April through August corrected for storage in Bridgeport Reservoir.

^{3.} Exclusive of Tahoe and corrected for storage in Donner, Independence, and Boca Reservoirs.

^{4.} Maximum storage with gates closed.



STREAMFLOW FORECASTS APRIL 1, 1949

Snake River Basin in Nevada

Snow stored water on the headwaters of Salmon Falls and Bruneau River is about 150 percent of last year on this date and 150 percent of average.

Flow of Owyhee River near Owyhee, Nevada, for the period April through July is forecast at 150,000 acre feet. This is three times the flow last year or 187 percent of the 45 year normal. Wildhorse Reservoir contained 6,000 acre feet on April 1, or 20 percent of capacity. The reservoir will probably fill this season.

Upper Humboldt Basin

Snow stored water on the headwaters of Marys River, North Fork, and Susie, and Maggie Creeks is about twice normal at the low elevations and about 40 percent above at the high elevations. Snow is wind packed indicating gradual melting with late runoff.

From Trout Creek to Lamoille Creek snow stored water at the low elevations is about 200 percent of normal while there is about 115 percent at high elevations.

The April-July flow of Lamoille Creek near Lamoille is forecast at 32,000 acre feet. This is 30 percent better than last year and 10 percent above normal. South Fork of Humboldt near Elko is forecast to flow 160,000 acre feet. This is three times that available last year and twice normal.

The forecast flow of Humboldt River at Palisade for the period April-July is 300,000 acre feet or three times last year and 150 percent of normal. Cumulative discharge since October 1, is 70 percent of the median.

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Lower Humboldt Basin

Snow stored water on the headwaters of Little Humboldt Basin is twice normal at low elevations and about normal at high elevations. The April-July forecast flow of Martin Creek near Paradise Valley is 14,000 acre feet. This is approximately the same as was available last year and is 70 percent of normal.

Snow stored water on the headwaters of Reese River is slightly better than last year and about 150 percent of normal.

Snow cover on Rock Creek is three times greater than normal with snow conditions similar to those in 1945.

Pitt-Taylor and Rye Patch Reservoirs contained 65,000 acre feet on April 1. This is approximately 50 percent of the storage on this date last year and 30 percent of capacity. Above average runoff from Upper Humboldt maybe sufficient to fill the reservoirs.

Northern Great Basin

Snow stored water contributing to Quinn River and McDermitt Creek is greater than normal and will cause these streams to flow about 25 percent above normal.

Eastern Nevada

Snow stored water above Steptoe and Ruby Valleys is much greater than normal. Snow surveys by the Fish and Wildlife Service at the south end of Ruby Valley indicate a snow cover twice normal.

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The Snake Range contains 130 percent of last years snow and 120 percent of normal:

Snow water above the City of Ely is still heavy with the amount measured April 1 about twice normal or similar to that available in 1945.

Central Great Basin

Snow on the White Mountains above Fish Lake Valley in West Central Nevada is better than average. A new snow course near White Mountain Peak at 12,000 feet elevation established and surveyed in cooperation with the U.S. Navy and Deep Springs School measured 36 inches of snow and 15 inches of water.

Lower Colorado River in Nevada

Snow cover in the Mount Charleston area near Las Vegas is about 80 percent better than last year and 60 percent greater than the past 8 year average.

The heavy snow pack on Meadow Valley Wash is practically gone. Danger of high water from snow melt no longer exits.

Lake Mead contains about 1,000,000 acre feet less water than last year at this time.

Walker Basin

West Walker River near Coleville is forecast to flow 165,000 acre feet from April through July. This is 150 percent of last year and 95 percent of the 45 year normal. Cumulative discharge since October 1 is 50 percent of median. Topaz Reservoir contained 22,000 acre feet in storage on April 1. This is less than last year and only 40 percent of capacity. The Reservoir will probably fill this year.

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Snow on the Unite Linuxlains above fish Lake Valleyin Fest Central Hardd is better than average, it new anow course near Thite Mountain Feak at 12,600 feet elevation obtablished and surveyed in cooperation with the U.S. Mayy and beep Springs School assaured 36 inches of snow and 15 inches of water.

Lower Colorado Wiver in Mevada

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April through August flow of East Walker River near Bridgeport is forecast at 65,000 acre feet. This is twice the flow of last year and almost 90 percent of normal. Bridgeport Reservoir stored 20,000 acre feet on April 1, which is slightly less than last year and about 50 percent of capacity. The reservoir will probably fill this year.

Carson Basin

East Carson River near Gardnerville is forecast to flow 180,000 acre feet, which is more than was available last year and 86 percent of the long time normal. Stream discharge will probably remain above 200 second feet until the last week in July.

April through July flow of West Carson at Woodfords is forecast at 50,000 acre feet. This is slightly more than the runoff of last year and almost 80 percent of normal.

Water supplies from local drainages in Upper Carson Valley which are dependent upon low elevation snow should be better than any year since 1941.

Flow at Fort Churchill is forecast at 135,000 acre feet or 69 percent of the 45 year normal and about 20 percent greater than last year.

Lahontan Reservoir contained 197,000 acre feet on April 1 of this year compared to 189,000 last year and 248,000 for the 1938-47 average for this date. This years storage is almost 70 percent of capacity.

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Tahoe Basin

April 1 storage in Lake Tahoe was 183,000 acre-feet. This is 68 percent of the stored water last year and only 36 percent of the past ten year average for this date. Truckee Basin Water Committee forecasts a maximum storage, assuming gates closer, of 359,000 acre feet. This is 77 percent of last year and 62 percent of the 45 year normal. When storage drops below 200,000 acre feet it becomes difficult to release sufficient water from the Lake to satisfy decreed rates of flow in Truckee River.

Truckee Basin

Truckee Basin Water Committee forecasts the April-July flow of Truckee River at Farad, to be 250,000 acre feet. This is 118 percent of last year and 86 percent of the 45 year normal.



STATUS OF RESERVOIR STORAGE, ARIL 1, 1949

BASIN and STREA	m reservoir	USABLE CAPACITY	THOUSA	NDS ACRE	FEET IN	STOR AGE	ABOUT APR.1
		(THOUS. A.F.)	1949	1948	1947	1946	10-yr.avg. 1938-1947
Owyhee	Wildhorse	33	6	6	19	24	15 ^a
Lower Humboldt	Pitt Taylor	27	0	0	23	19	22p
Lower Humboldt	Rye Patch	178	65	120	1.86	187	180°
Tahoe	Tahoe	750	183	268	534	589	509
Carson	Lahontan	286	197	189	246	250	245
West Walker	Topaz	59	22	25	52	55	48
East Walker	Bridgeport	42	20	24	44	43	39
Colorado	Mead	27,935	17,735	18,620	16,383	17,776	19,229 ^d

a - Average for years 1940 - 1947

b - Average for years 1938 - 1941, 1945 - 1947

c - Average for years 1943 - 1947

d - Average for years 1939 - 1947

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NEVADA SNOW SURVEYS ARTI 1, 1949

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Ż	Number	S o o	Twp.	Rge e	Elev.	Date of Survey	Snow Depth (inches)	1949	Same Approx.date	0x.date	Years of Record	Av. Water Content (inches)
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	12	35	39N	53E	6200	3/30	29.4	8	0.5	0	- ∞	M. W.

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LOCATION SNOW COVER MEASUREMENTS	Water Content(inches) Date Snow Same Approxedate Sec. Twp. Rge. Elev. of Depth	Survey (inches) 1948 1947 Record (inches)		7800 3/30 77.2 24.4 20.0 15.0	33 46N 58E 6800 3/29 41.5 13.9 7.6 2.8 12	6 44N 58E 7100 No Survey · 11.3 6.7 3	31 45N 56E 6600 3/28 28.9 9.5 5.8 0 9	30 45N 56E 6700 3/28 42.4 15.2 8.3 3.6 21	31 43N 54E 6700 3/29 44.5 15.0 7.9 4.4 8	36 43N 53E 6800 3/29 46.9 16.2 9.1 4.2 8	18 42N 53E 6800 3/31 15.4 4.5 4.7 0 14	9 42N 53E 7250 3/31 43.0 14.3 11.6 4.2 8	9 39N 55E 5700 3/30 13.1 4.6 0 0 7	35 39N 53E 6200 3/30 29.4 8.9 0.5 0 8	28 37N 61E 6900 3/31 22.3 7.0 No Survey 0 3	4 36N 61E 8500 3/31 77.2 28.8 " " 21.5 3	9 6	1 34N 59E 5800 3/31 4.1 2.0 0 0 7	5 34N 60E 6500 4/1 19.6 8.0 1.8 0 7	15 32N 58E 7100 3/29 42.3 12.4 11.2 4.0 17	14 32N 58E 7300 3/29 41.6 13.0 12.1 2.9 20	24 32N 58E 7700 3/29 53.2 18.2 15.2 7.0 . 14	19 32N 59E 8000 3/28 72.5 24.0 20.7 13.5 8	31 32N 59E 8700 3/29 88.2 29.4 24.4 23.6 11	23 29N 57E 8000 No Survey 14.1 4.4 7	9 28N 57E 6600 3/31 23.0 9.0 5.5 0 12	
COCATION	Rge.			146N 58E	.46N 58E	44N 58E	45N 56E	45N 56E	43N 54E	43N 53E	42N 53E	42N 53E	39N 55E	39N 53E	37N 61E	36N 61E	35N 60E	34N 59E	34N 60E	32N 58E	32N 58E	32N 58E	32N 59E	32N 59E	29N 57E	28N 57E	28N C75
	Number																										
	- (1)	SNOW COURSE	UPPER HUMBOLDT	Bear Creek	Fox Creek	76 Creek	Gold Creek	Big Bend	Fry Canyon	Rodeo Flat	Lower Jack Creek	Upper Jack Creek	Tremewan Ranch	Taylor Canyon	Lower Trout Creek	Upper Trout Creek	Dorsey Basin	Ryan Ranch	24				Lamoille #4	Lamoille #5	untain		Harrison Pass #2

NEVADA SNOW SURVEYS, AFRIL 1, 1949

	Av. Water	(inches)		7.5	11.1	က္	11.8	2.9	2.0	2.0	3.9	9.7	2.1	0.9		13.4	18.8	3.1	0.9	18.4	19.9		
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1	Water	1949		14.2	9.1	8,6	8.9	11.9	ဝ ့	5.4	9.57	10.3	2.7	7.9		24.2	25.7	7√ ∞	11.6	20°0	20.5	18.9	7.3
	Snow	Depth (inches)		39.5	29.6	26.3	31.4	33.1	25,2	11.07	23.5	24.3	4.4	19.4		, 52.1	8,99	19.2	32,8	. 5°09	63.1	57.4	22.9
	Date	or Survey		14/3	1/17	1,/2	14/2	1/1	1/1	1/3	11/3	14/3	11/2	14/2		3/31	3/31	3/31	14/5	11/5	14/5	3/30	3/29
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LOCATION		Number		7	2	Μ	7	\mathcal{V}	9	2	8	6	10	11		٦	2	\sim	7	Ŋ	9	~	ಐ
LC	DRAINAGE BASIN	and SNOW COURSE	LOWER HULDOLDT	Lower Buckskin	Upper Buckskin		Granite Peak	Lamance Creek	Midas	Big Creek Camp Ground	Creek	Upper Big Creek	Lower Corral		EASTERN NEVADA	Cave Creek	Hager Canyon	Murray Summit	Baker #1	Baker #2	Baker #3		Bird Creek

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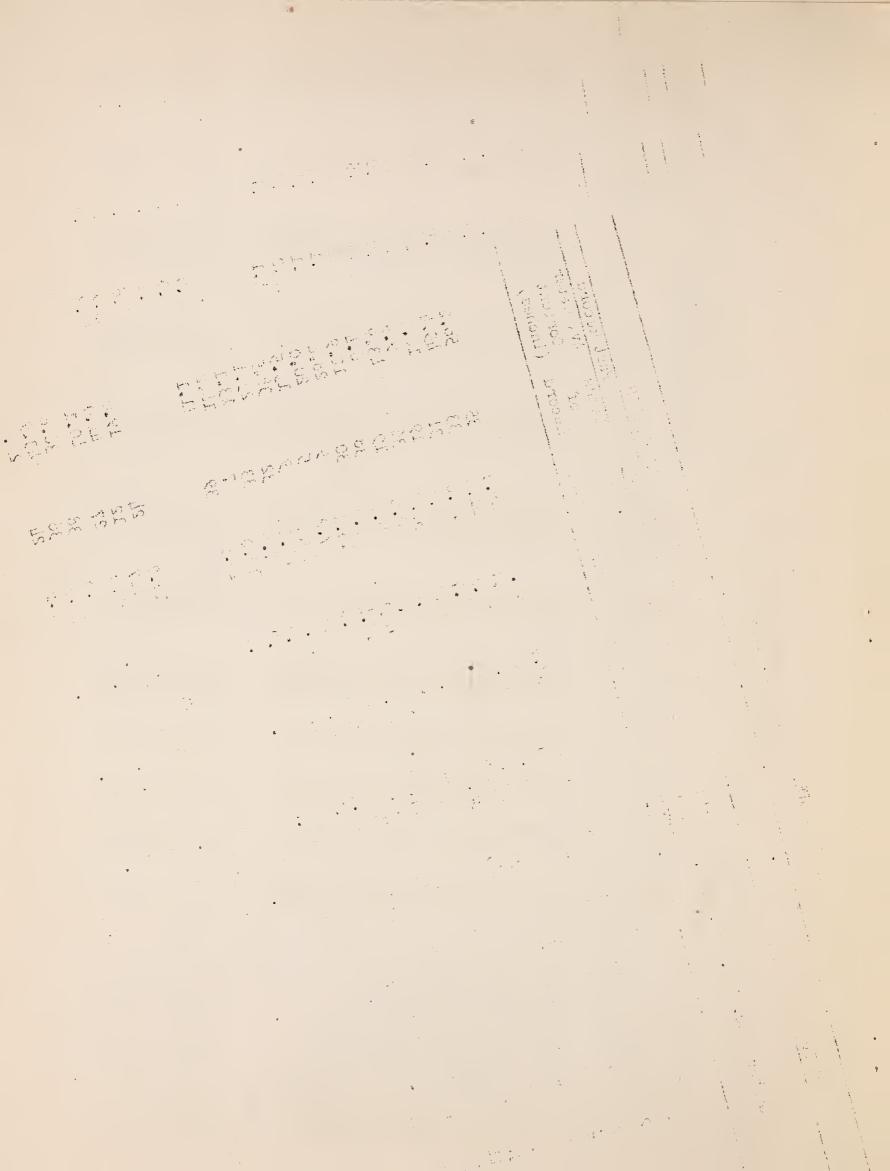
MENADA SNOW SURVEYS APRIL 1, 1949

	LOCATION	NO							SNC	E	MEASUREMENTS	TIS
DRAINAGE BASIN and SNOW COURSE	Number	Sec	• Twp	Twp. Rge.	. Elev.	Date of Survey	Snow Depth (inches)	Water 1949	Content(inches) Same Approx.date 1948 1947	nches) ox.date 1947	Past Years P of Record (Av. Water Content (inches)
LOWER COLORADO												
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CENTRAL GREAT BASIN												
Clark Canyon Trough Springs WcAfee Forks (Cal.)	нап	8 F T	198 188 48	56E 55E 34E	9000 8500 7500	14/1 14/3 14/2	61.6	114.3	8.1	5.2 1.6 New 0	4 3 Course	V V 0 V 0 V 0 V 0 V 0 V 0 V 0 V 0 V 0 V
Roberts Ranch (Cal.) Goat Spring (Cal.)	アンス	H 62	68 89	35年37年	10300	3/30	26.05	4 00 c	00 ,	No Survey	220	1.1
Ranger Station (Cal.) White Mountain (Cal.)	0 ~ 8	177	55	3万里 37里 37里 37里 37里 37里 37里 37里 37里 37里 37	9500		24.9	15.0	New S	Snow Course		1.7
NORTHERN GREAT BASIN												
Bald Mountain Disaste r Pea k	Н 8	17	45N 47N	21E 34E	6720 6500	3/31 4/2	27.5 39.4	9.1	2.2 New .	0 Snow Course	se 8	2.3

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NEVADA SNOW SURVEYS AFRIL 1, 1949

	Past Record s Av. Water Content		76.2 15.4 16.4	43.9	12.9	2 4 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	13.1 14,2 31.1		19.0 41.0 40.1 38.6 43.9 29.2
ENTS	Pas- Years of		333333333333333333333333333333333333333	36	, 88 8 9	W & ST.	33		24 12 27 38 36 24
MEASUREMENTS	hes) date	+	49.3	37.8	2000	2007	7.6 10.0 28.9		.17.2 31.7 30.0 24.8 30.9 19.5
SNOW COVER	Content(inches) Same Approx.date		43.8 26.1 10.1	30.6	N C C	12,2	13.5		Survey 24.8 30.0 24.8 30.9 19.5
	Water S	ì	57.9 45.2 22.4	16,2	10 0 7 70 0 7	22°8 37°2 19°0	16.2		No 36.6 43.0 42.0 48.2 35.0
	Snow Depth (inches)		149.3	115°4	46,1 77.,6 67.6	7,000 7,000	41.4 38,2 78.2		Survey 96.6 117.0 101.7 115.4 90.0
	Date of Survey		11/2 11/3	7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5	3 3 5 1 	グレト	17/47/77		No S 14/3 14/2 14/2 14/2
	. Elev.		8400 8100 8000	7300 7000 6000	6250	6500 7500 8000	7350 6900 9000		8200 8450 8000 6900 7000
	Twp. Rge.		17E 17E 18E	18E	17E	1188日18	19E 19E 19E		17E 15E 14E 14E 16E 11E
	Twp		12N 13N 12N	12N 15N 12N	151 NS1 NS1	LSN LSN LSN	173N 174N 174N		19N 19N 17N 15N
NO	Sec.		28 6 36	36	300	10051	13		24 29 30 25 21 - 22 - 22 - 22 - 22 - 22 - 22 - 2
LOCATION	Number		321	しらた	8 6 6	112	15		OMTW0
	DRAINAGE BASIN and	1	Lake Lucille (Cal) Rubicon #1 (Cal.) Hagans Meadow (Cal.)	Freel Bench (Cal.) Ward Creek (Cal.) Upper Truckee (Cal.)		ِ فِي حَدِي	Daggetts Pass Glenbrook #2 Mt. Rose	TRUCKEE	Granite Peak (Cal.) Independence Lake (Cal. Webber Peak (Cal.) Donner Summit (Cal.) Ward Creek (Cal.) Webber Lake (Cal.)



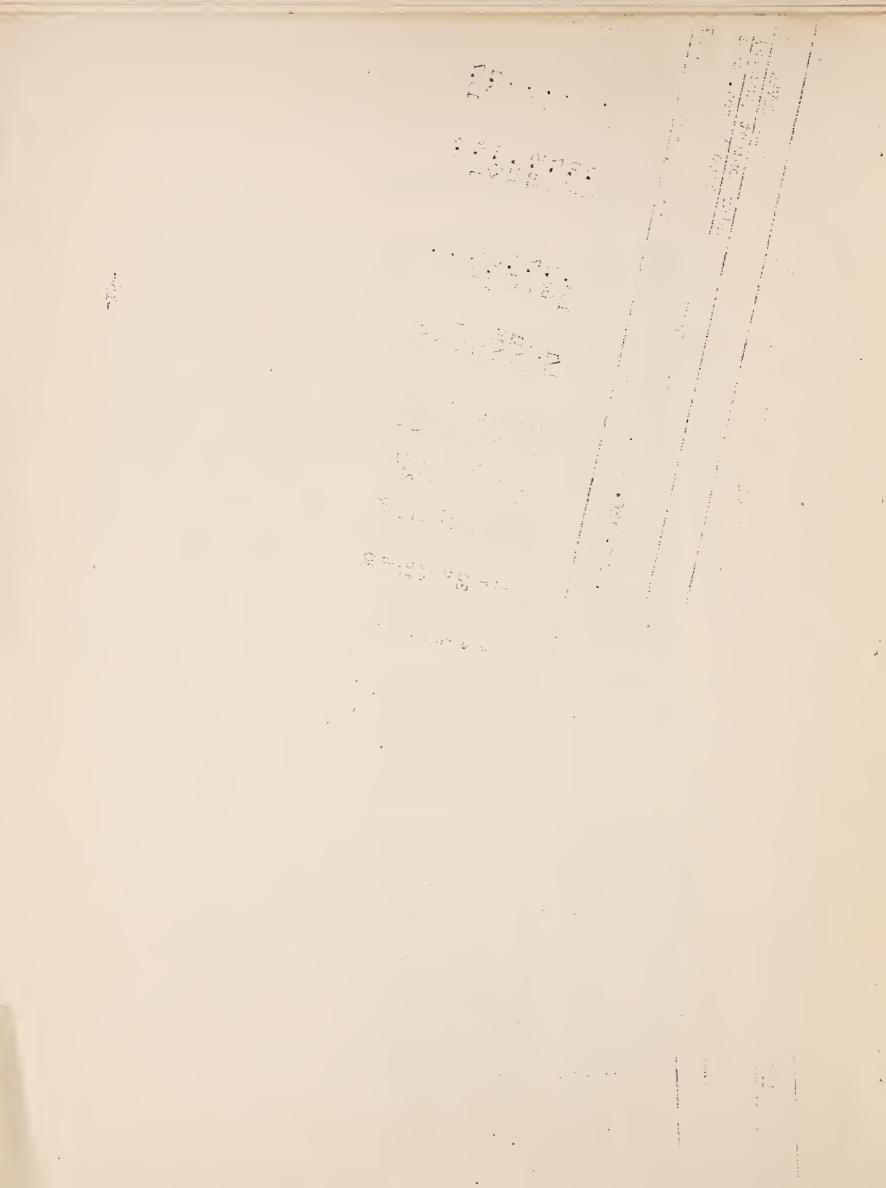
NEVADA SNOW SURVIYS ARTIL 1, 1949

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		Content (inches)		17.6	12.	140	12,	10	43.	37.	34.	20°	31.	7.	18,	23.	ထံ		36.	٦ ٣ ٢٠٠٠		
REMENTS	Past Years	cf Record		12	38	19	15	15	೧	31	20	∞	39	⇉	ιV	56	~		1.9	~ ()E	Φ	
COVER MEASUREMENTS	erd (inches) Approxidate	1947		7.9 ··	0 (φ.				20.7						16.4		•	30.5	30°1	Snow Cours	
SNOWC	Same Appro	1948		4.9	ν. γυ.	7.7	4.2	No Sur	28°7	23.0	19.5	12,1	13.5	6.5	12,0	16.7	5.6		33.4	ر پ در	New	
	Wecer	1949		20.6	22.5	18.9	15.6	(7,87	75.6	36.3	25,0	27.9	16.2	30.0	18,7	21.7		35.4	20°5 36.3	16.3	
	Snow	Depth (inches)		52.6	46.1	964	42.6	Survey	113.7	110.4	87.6	62,5	78.2	43.7	72.3	46.3	75.6		25.3	24.2	40.2	
	Date	of. Survey		4/2	1/2	17,72	7	on ;	•	1/5					~	•			3/26	3/26.	14/3	-17-
	i	Elev.		6500	6250	0079	6300	2,000	0099	6500	6750	2000	9000	0009	5950	8800	6300		8600	3000	7300	
		Sec. Twp. Rge.		16E	17E	16E	1万	17E	13图	13年	14形	1分	19年	16E	15年	18년	19瓦		18年	7.0F	19E	
	1	- Twp		18N	15N	17N	19N	18N	17N	18N	17N	19M	17N	17N	17N	18N	16N		lon	N O	17N	
				2	9	25	77	28	10	34	23	34	2	10	17	15	17		22	ر ا ا	16	
LOCATION		Number		2	8	6		H	12	13	 	$\overline{}$				19	20		д	'n w	トノ	
TO	DRAINAGE BASIN	and SNOW COURSE	TRUCKEE (Con't.)	Sage Hen Creek (Cal.)	City (Cal.		Independence Creek (Cal.	Boca #2 (Cal.)	Furnace Flat (Cal.)	Fordyce Lake (Cal.)	Soda Springs (Cal.)	Independence Camp (Cal.	١.	Truckee Ranger Sta. (Cal.		Big Meadows	Little Valley	CABSON	Pass	Folson Flat (Cal.) Rlue Lakes (Cal.)	74	

order (Total)

NEVADA SNOW SURVEYS AFRIL 1, 1949

TS Past Record	Av. Water Content (inches)		34.3	24.2	19.4	13.2	10.9	20.7	7.7	25.7	
REMENTS Pas	Years of Record		56	17	18	2	15	56	79	19	
SNOW COVER MEASUREMENTS tent (inches) Pa	• date 1947		30.9	17.9	16.1	15.9	7.9	15.0	7.01	19.4	
SNOW COVER ME Water Content (inches)	Same Approx.	The state of the s	22.8	14.1	12,1	10.4	У. Л.	8.1	3.1	15.7	
Water C	Sa 1949	de paleman de la composition della composition d	39.9	27.0	22.7	18.5	12.2	25.0	11.9	14.9	
	Snow Depth (inches)	in the contract of the contrac	108.6	68,1	2.99	53.8	38.5	71.4	32.5	17.6	
	Date of Survey		4/1	4/5	3/31	3/25	3/29	3/31	1/5	1/1	
	Elev.		9400	8800	8500	9500	8250	. 0062	7200	0066	
	R ge		23臣	21E	23臣	25E	23瓦	23E	22臣	25年	
	Sec. Twp. Rge.		3N	5N	PN TH	2N	SN	N [†] N	SN S	JN	
N		-	4	М	20	N	21	15	7	90	
LOCATION	Number		Н	2	<u>~</u>	4	√	9	7	ဆ	
	DRAINAGE BASIN and SNOW COURSE	WALKER	Center Mountain (Cal.)	Sonora Pass (Cal.)	Buckeye Forks (Cal.)	Virginia Lakes (Cal.)	Willow Flat (Cal.)	Buckeye Roughs (Cal.)	Leavitt Meadows (Cal.)	Tioga Pass (Cal.)	



SNOW SURVEYORS

April 1949

\mathbb{V}_{\bullet}	Ar	zu	ag	a
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A. Barnhill

B. Bell

M. Benson

W. Birdsall

M. Bishop

T. Blohm

T. Brierley

A. Chase

J. Church

P. Cowgill

E. Dillwith

W. Dillwith

G. Doll

J. Dove

J. Ferguson

M. Follstad

R. Gardner

C. Gnevo

D. Goodale

B. Halliday

E. Hance

H. Hansen

E. Hanson

R. Harrington

J. Hart

V. Hart

R. Hauk

J. Hess

C. Houston

J. Hunnicutt

D. Jewett

K. Jones

C. Karplus

J. Kingsley

R. Kuehner

A. Lamson

R. Law

A. Lincoln

G. Martin

W. Mason

C. Matson

E. McKinnon

A. Murchie

B. Murphy

E. Murphy, Jr.

E. Naanes

G. Neuharth

M. Neuharth

E. Ford

P. Ogden

R. Patch

B. Peterson

J. Pescio

W. Price

E. Raiford

F. Richardson

R. Ross

C. Salls

L. Sawyer

D. Schmidtlein

J. Silva

G. Slovik

B. Smith

L. Smith

M. Steninger

G. Swainston

A. Swindlehurst

A. Te Selle

G. Warren

J. Watts

L. Wilkerson

J. Wilkerson

F. Woods

L. Woods

A. Wright

